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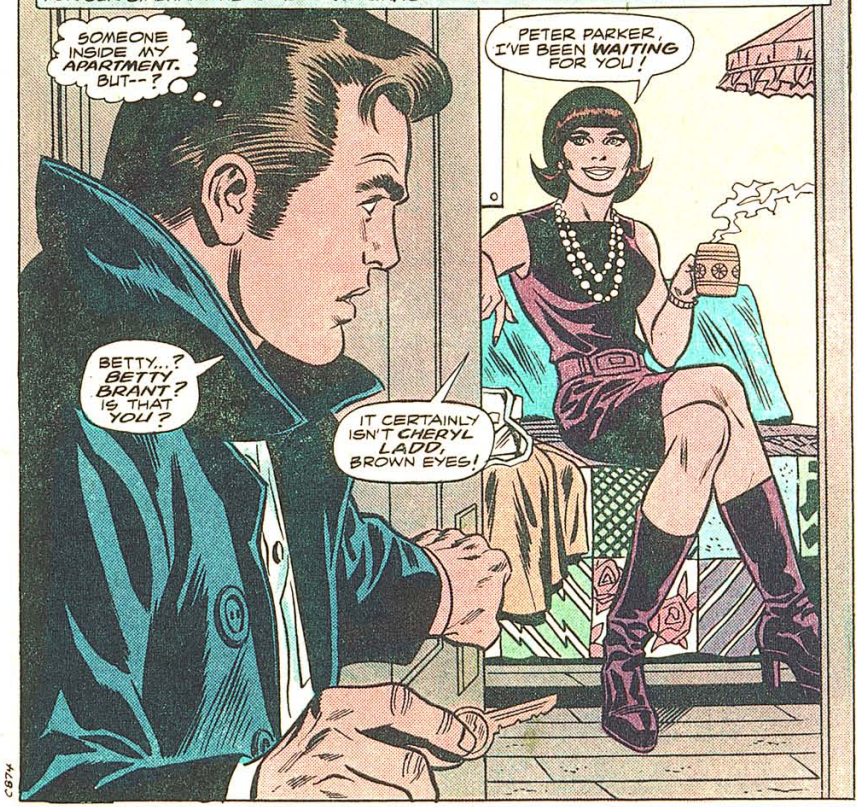
STAN LEE PRESENTS: **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™**

MARV WOLFMAN / WRITER / EDITOR / ROSS ANDRU / PENCILS / FRANK GIACOIA / INKS / J. COSTANZA / LETTERS / GLYNIS WEIN / COLORS

WHITE DRAGON! RED DEATH!

*SYNOPSIS: AUNT MAY HAS BEEN MOVED INTO THE **CRITICAL WARD** OF NEWHOPE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, AND MARY JANE WATSON HAS JUST TURNED DOWN PETER PARKER'S **PROPOSAL** OF MARRIAGE. IN SHORT, THINGS ARE LOOKING THEIR CUSTOMARY **DOWN** FOR OUR STALWART HERO AS HE **RETURNS** TO HIS CHELSEA PAD...*



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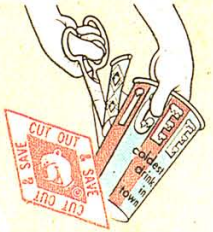

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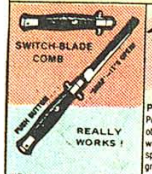

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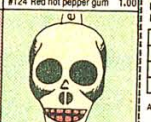

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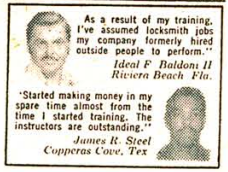

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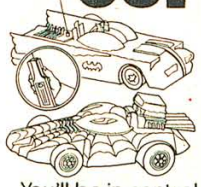

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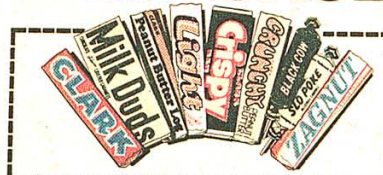

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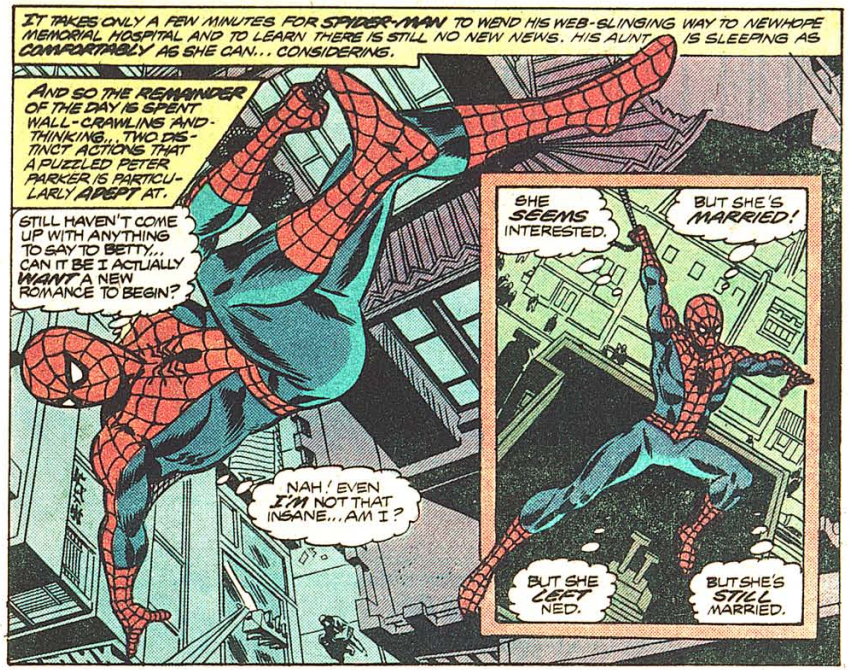

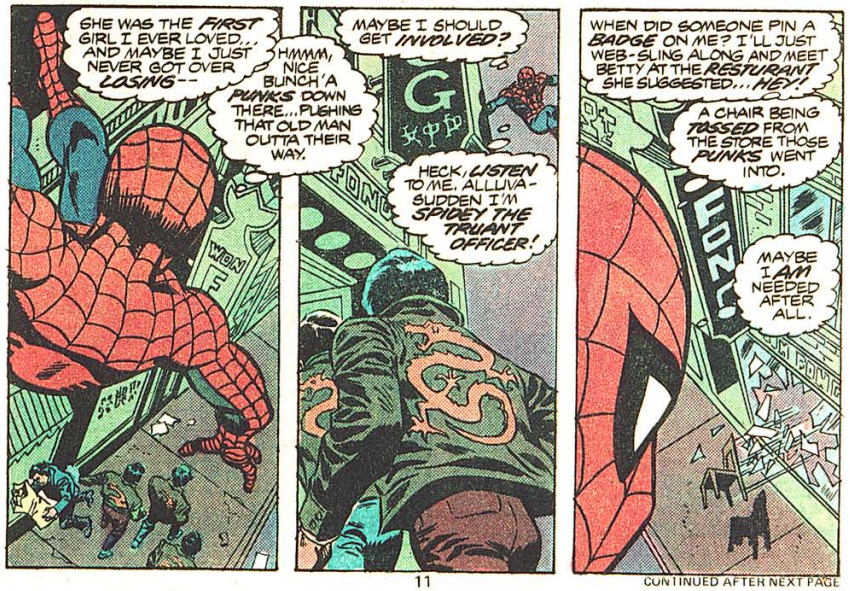

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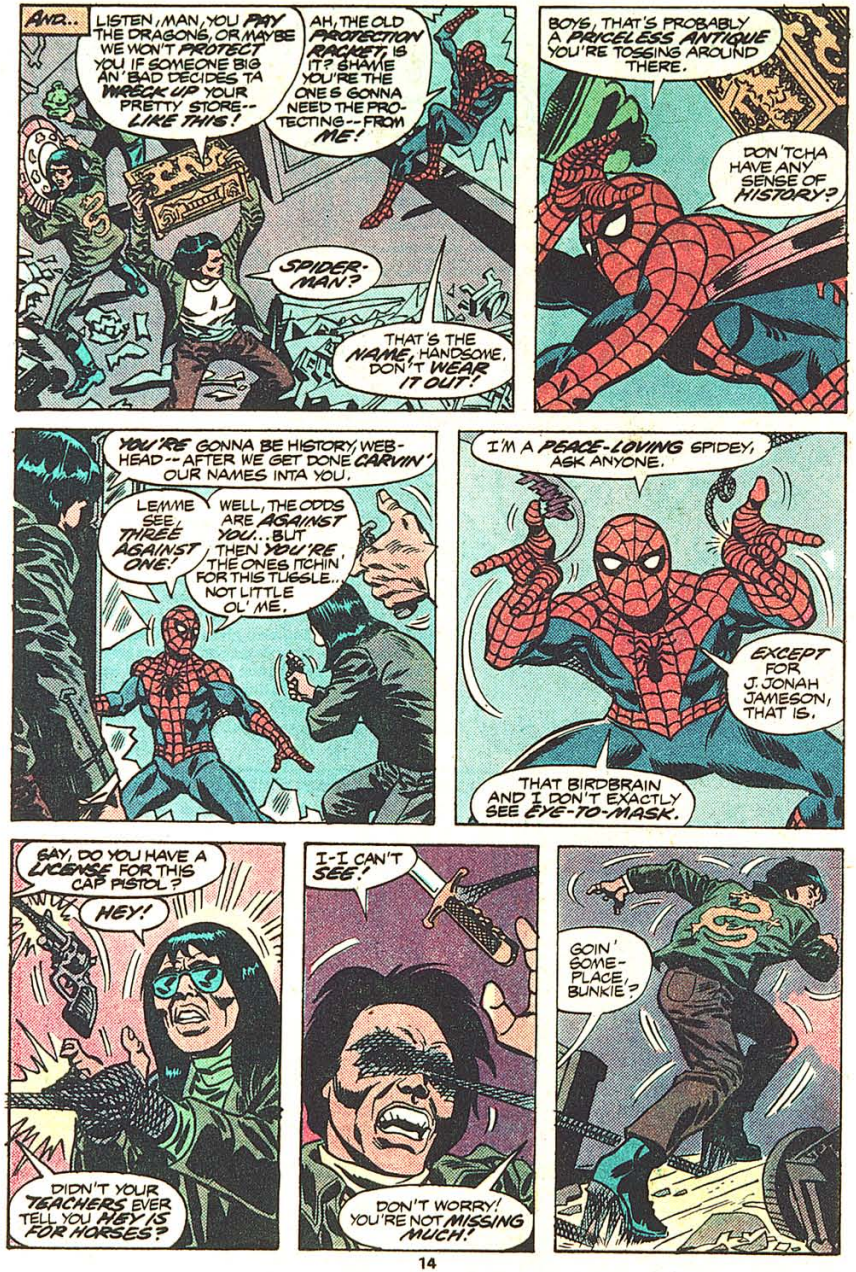

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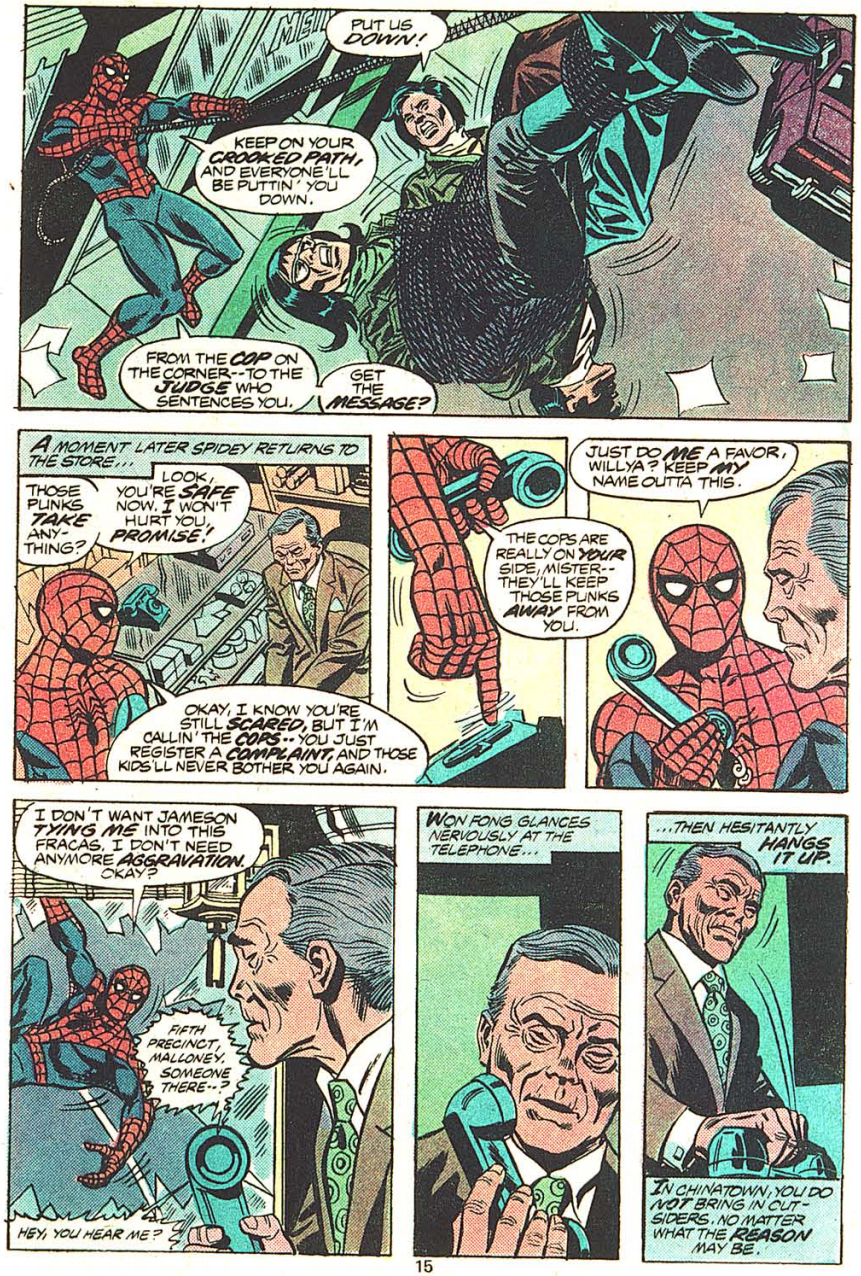

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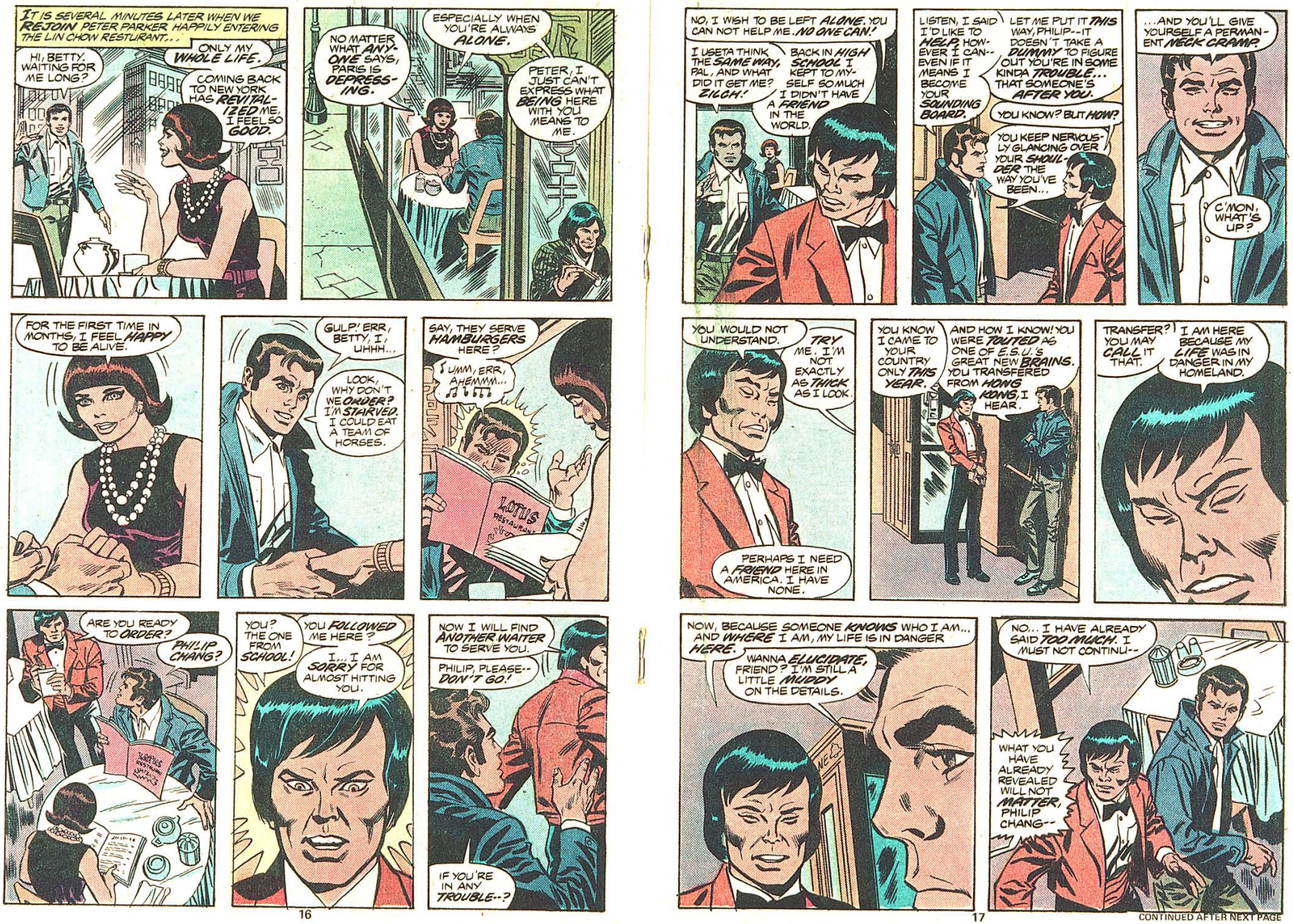

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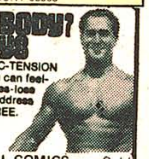

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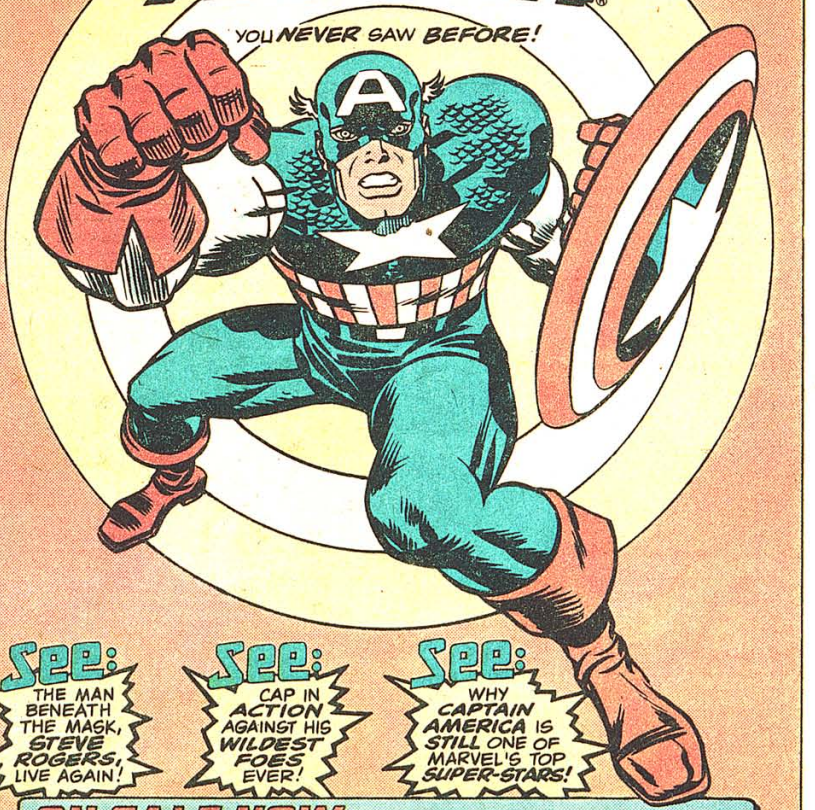

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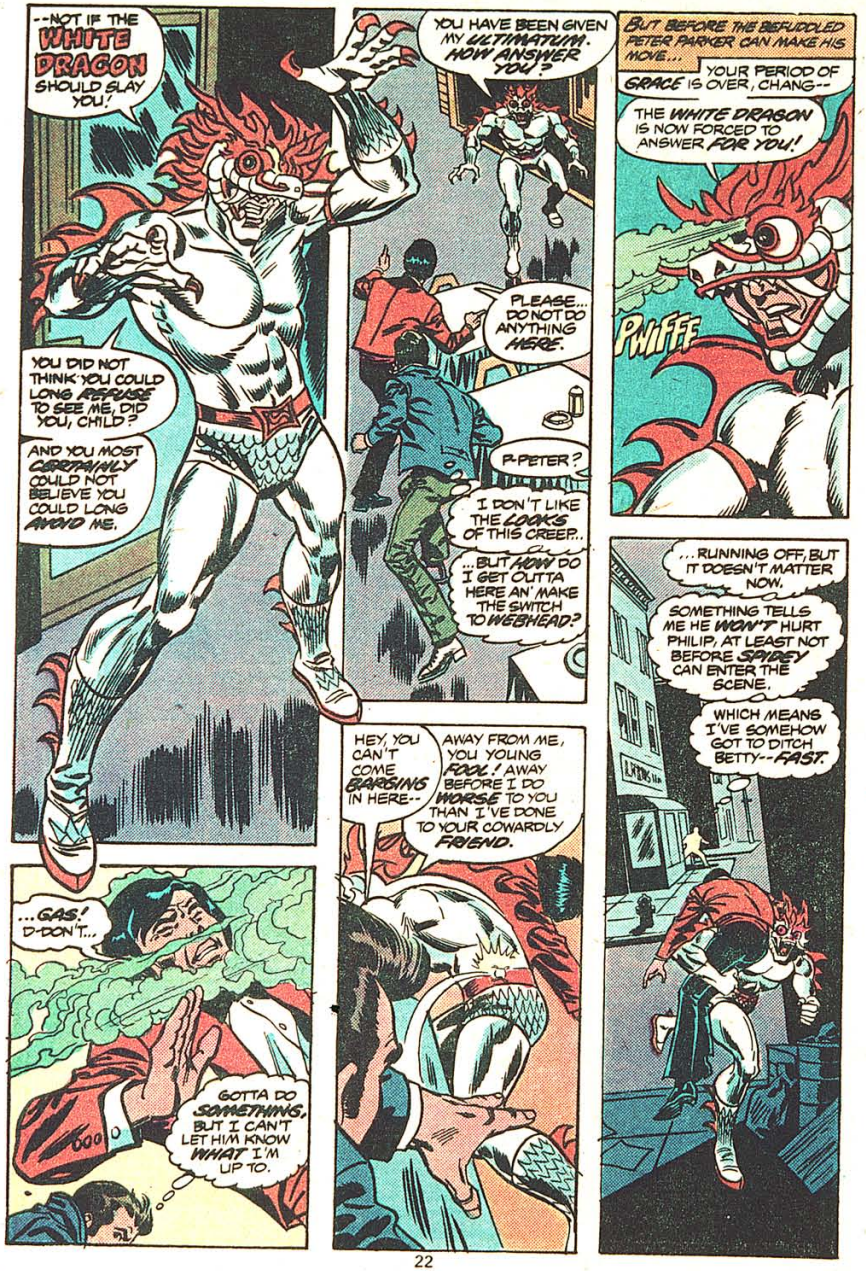

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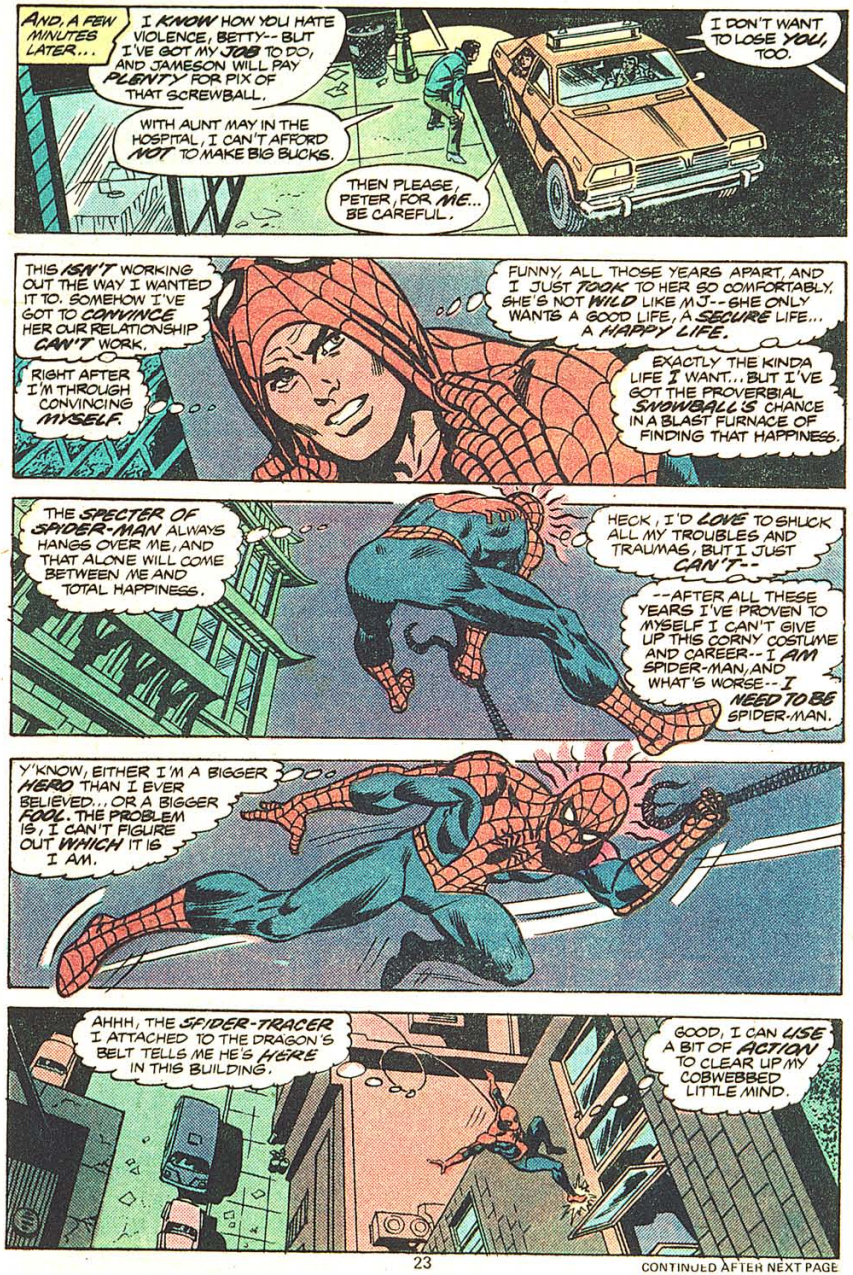

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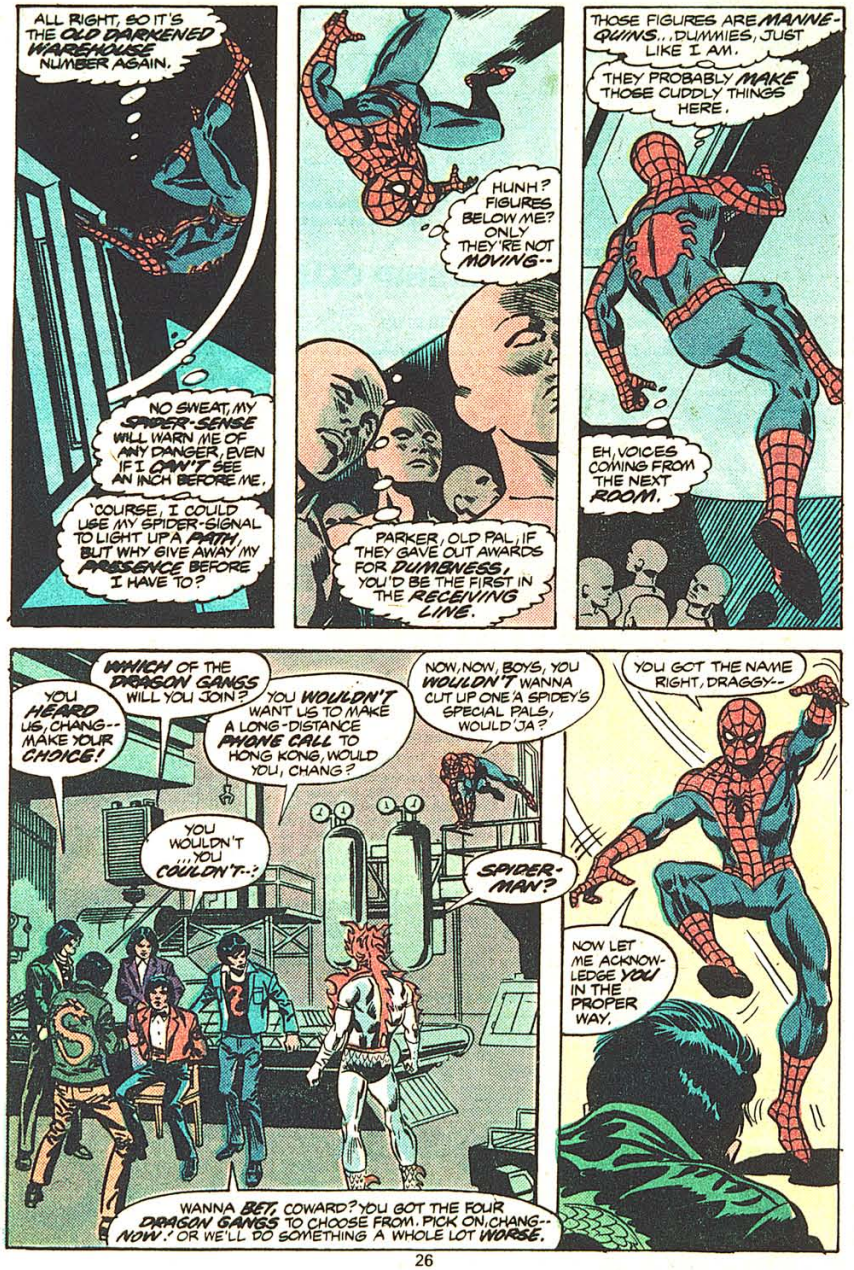

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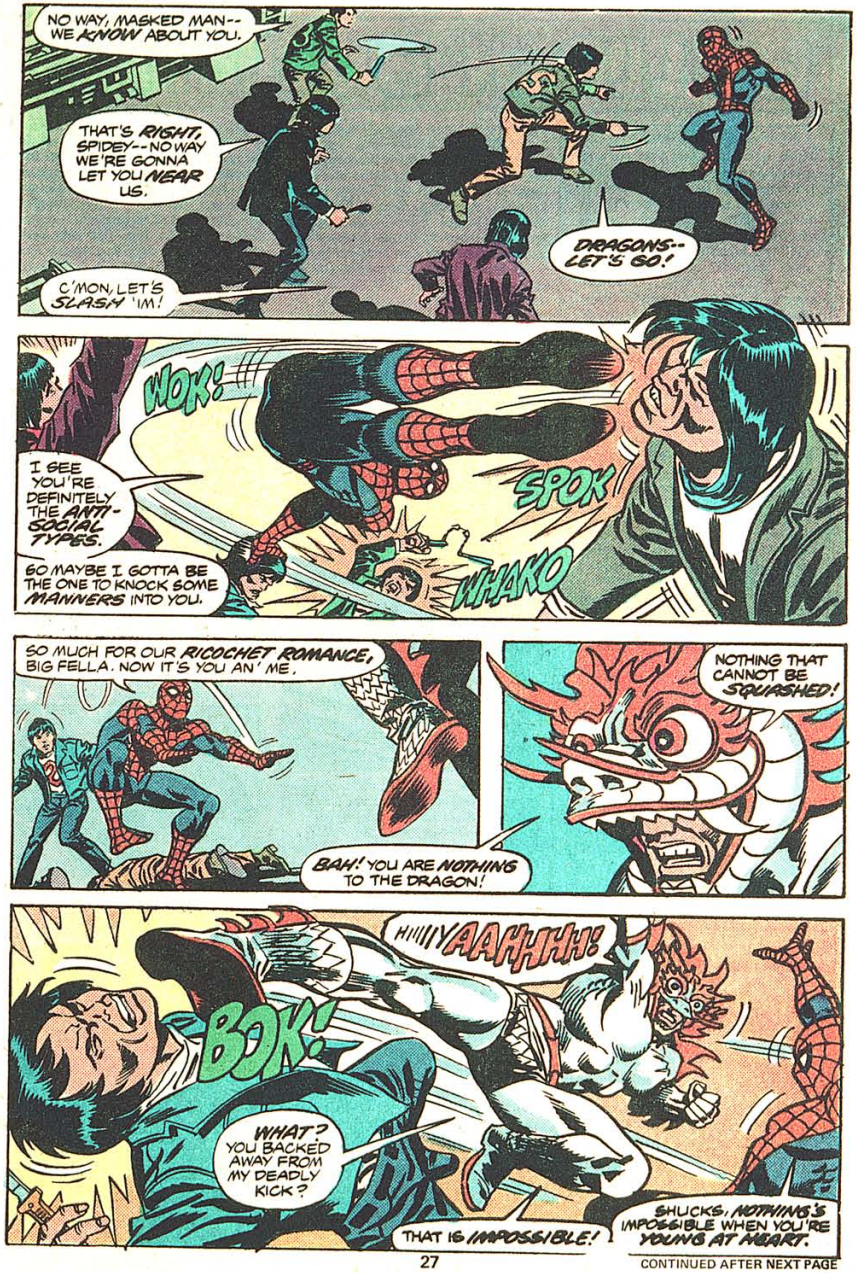

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BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Know something? I've gotta learn to speak Japanese! All of a sudden, Marvel is threatening to become the latest and greatest "in" thing in the Land of the Rising Sun! There are special Japanese-version Marvel movies being produced, specially adapted Marvel comics, toys, games, and—for all we know—even Spider-Man Samurai warriors! (We *know* there are SHOGUN warriors, 'cause we're preparing a great new Shogun mag right now, but it's still a secret, so don't let on I toldja!) Anyway, just to totally obfuscate the issue, see if you can figure this one out. These wise and witty words are being written for you in the beginning of March, in order to get them printed in time to go on sale in June! Now stay with this, hear? I'm heading for Japan in the middle of May, which is a couple of months from now ("now" being the time I'm writing this)! I'm bustin' to tell you all about my trip, but I can't 'cause I haven't gone yet; although by the time you read this I'll have been *back* for about a month! See why I'm always mixed up? See why we always tell you that Marvel time is different than "real world" time? See why, when someone asks me the date, I panic and run for the hills? But now, before you get too emotional about this, let's welcome all our Japanese friends on board; and, to all of them, and all of you, the mighty voices of Marveldom Assembled now cry out: "YO! toh-MOH-dah-chi ni nah-RI-mah-shoh; NAH-kah yoh-ku shi-MAH-shoh", which, as all True Believers know, means "Let us be good friends"! And, if the omnipotent Odin will return the Silver Surfer's curling iron to him, one of these days I'll teach you how to say it in English!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! First things first! Our humblest apologies to plucky PETRA GOLDBERG for failing to mention in last month's Bullpen Bulletins her outstanding contribution to Marvel Super Special #4 featuring THE BEATLES STORY. Petra is responsible for the splendiferous *coloring* therein—but since every alert Marvelite already possesses his very own copy, you all knew that anyway.

ITEM! It seems that congratulations are in order for none other than Dauntless DON McGREGOR. Early this April, the lucky guy wed a certain lovely lady by the name of Marsha Childers, and t'would appear they'll both be on Cloud 9 for quite a while! We at the Bullpen would like to join Marveldom Assembled in wishing the newlyweds all the best.

ITEM! Speaking of Don McGregor, somehow, during what *had* to have been rather hectic weeks before his wedding, the Dauntless One managed to script the masterful tale appearing in MARVEL PREMIERE #43. The story features PALADIN, a hard-fisted, sharp-shooting, mildly mercenary sensation first introduced in the pages of DAREDEVIL by JIM (Trouble) SHOOTER. Seldom has a new character evoked such an overwhelming ovation, and so natch, the ever-eager-to-please Bullpen wasted little time bringing him back in his own showcase. It's magnificently illustrated by Tap-dancin' TOM SUTTON and it's on sale now! And by the way, any resemblance between Paladin's damsel-in-distress and Don's blushing bride is probably his doing!

ITEM! Special Events abound this month! After seeming ages of hard work by Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH, Rampagin' RON WILSON, and Redoubtable RICARDO VILLAMONTE, the first full-color magazine-size issue of THE HULK is finally on sale—and is it a *doozie*! Yours for only a pittance—a mere $1.50—it portrays the Emerald Behemoth in a manner befitting the mightiest mortal ever to walk the earth. It's all there—the power, the hate, the triumph and the tragedy—truly this is an *epic*! As if the art and story weren't enough, this issue also features a full-color *photo section* devoted to the smash-sensation *Incredible Hulk* TV show! Get to your newsstand *fast*, before they're all gone!

ITEM! Also hot off the presses and available for your reading pleasure is the first Simon and Schuster Pocket Book featuring DOCTOR STRANGE! It's a real collector's item, recalling the Master Mage's earliest and eeriest encounters as dazzlingly depicted by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko! The back cover *alone* is worth the price of admission!

ITEM! More news from Simon and Schuster! THE MIGHTY MARVEL SUPER-HEROES FUN BOOK #3 is in the bookstores now just waiting to provide untold hours of entertainment for Marvel Minions. Check it out!

ITEM! *Whew!* Sometimes we get so caught up in all the fanfare for exceptional items and once-in-a-lifetime deals we almost forget to mention the things that made Marvel great in the first place—namely our regular comics that month after month quietly maintain an incredible standard of excellence—the solid backbone of the line. One such title is CONAN, which as every True Believer knows, is fast approaching its 100th issue. Rascally ROY THOMAS, writer and editor of both the CONAN color comic and THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN black-and-white magazine, has consistently provided excellent stories and arranged for some of the very best artists anywhere to illustrate them. In addition to Big JOHN BUSCEMA, perennial Conan penciller and Eighth Wonder of the World, ALFREDO ALCALA, CARMINE INFANTINO, GENE COLAN, and FRANK BRUNNER have all recently illustrated adventures of the sullen-eyed Cimmerian, each in his own distinctive, trend-setting style. Thus, barbarian-watchers will be treated to varied visual delights in upcoming months, and we promise you'll love every minute of it.

ITEM! While we're on the subject of visual delights, we trust that everyone is as enamored of the precise pencilling of Jocular JOHN BYRNE as we are. A recent copy of X-MEN should serve as proof that our favorite denizen of the Frozen North has truly risen to Superstar Status! John visited us here in civilization while attending the March *Creation Convention*, and delighted everyone with his warmth and wit. He's a great talent *and* a nice guy. Ask any Armadillo.

ITEM! Just a final note which lends credence to our belief that Mighty Marvel is taking over the world—Did you know that in the smash Broadway musical extravaganza, BEATLEMANIA, a whole passle of Marvel characters are featured in the multimedia presentation? Notable among them are *Magneto, Spitfire, Ms. Marvel, Miss America, the Whizzer, Captain America, the Sub-Mariner, Iron Fist, Power Man*, and more! Isn't fame wonderful? *Hoo-hah!*

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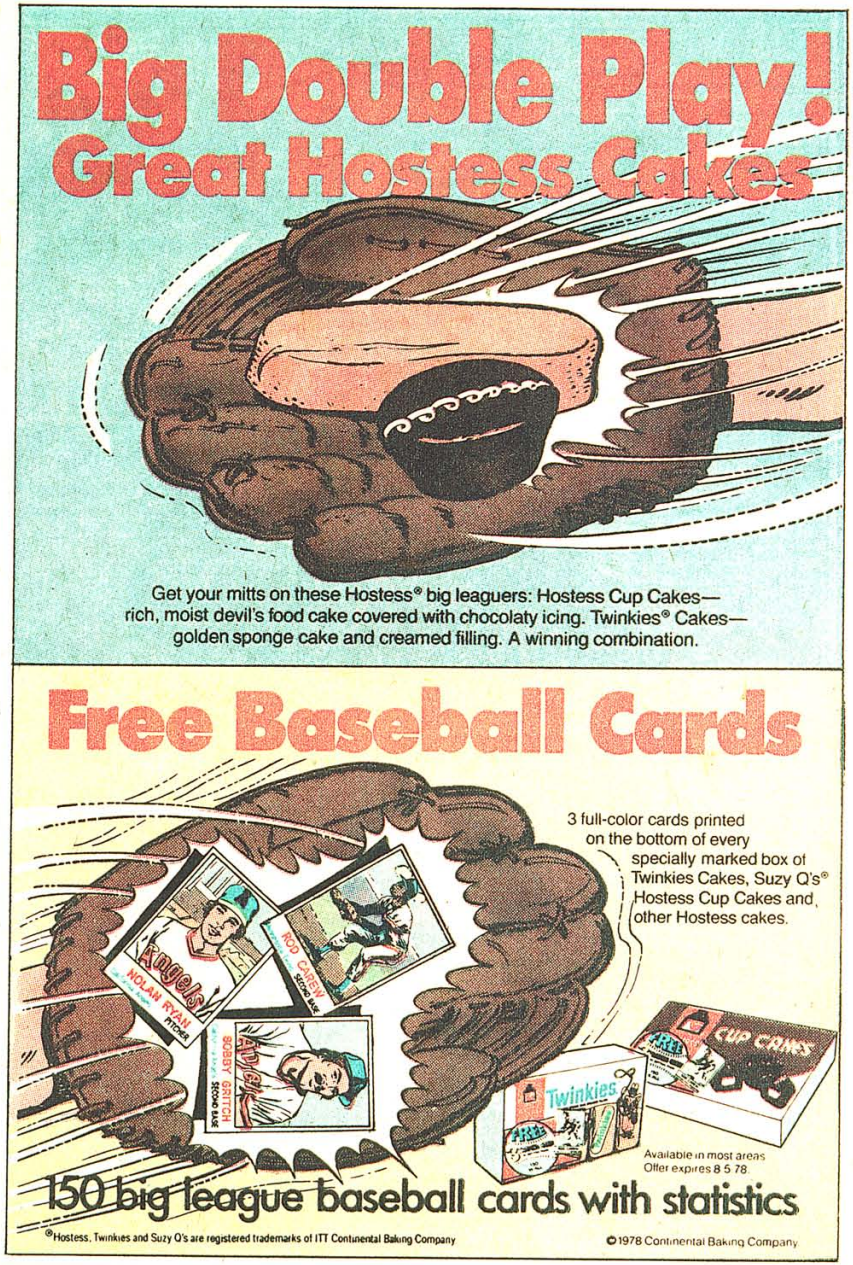

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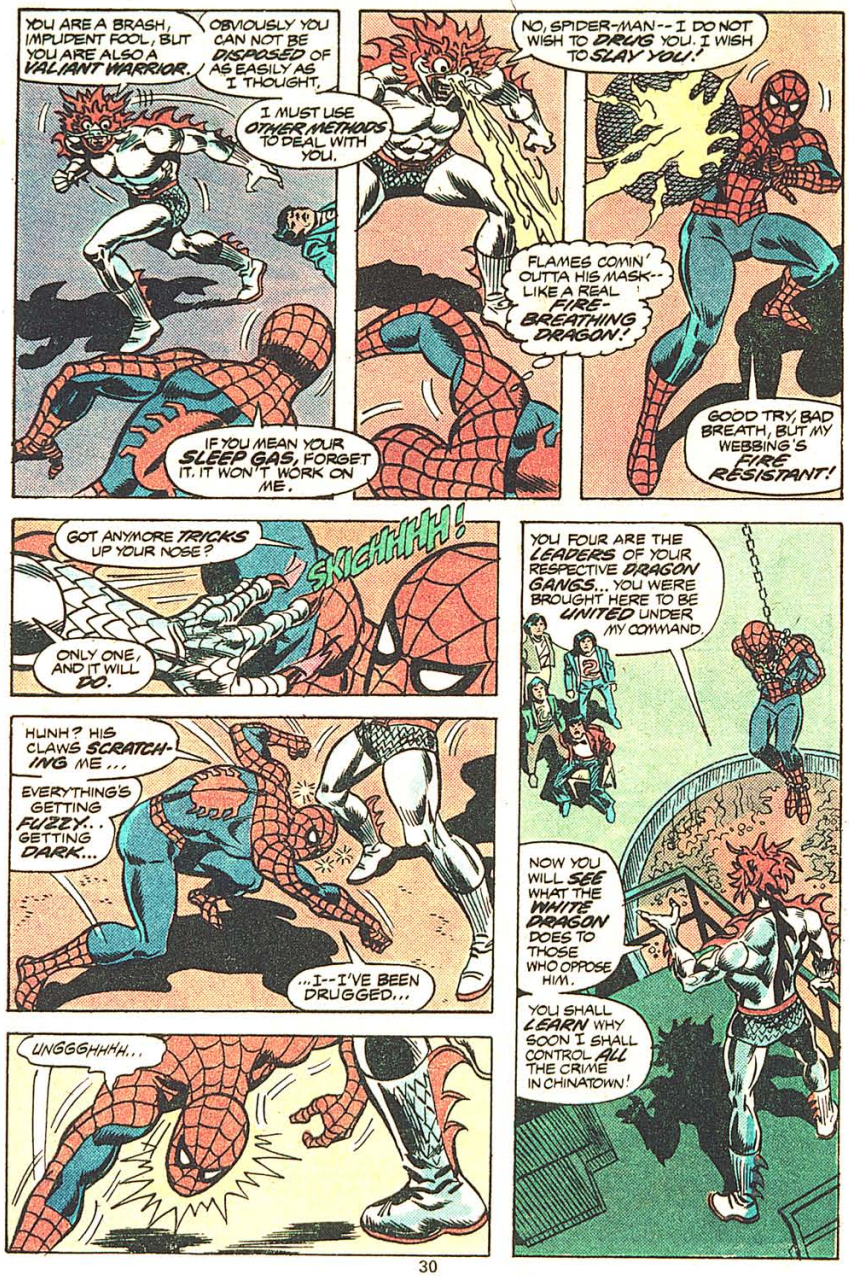

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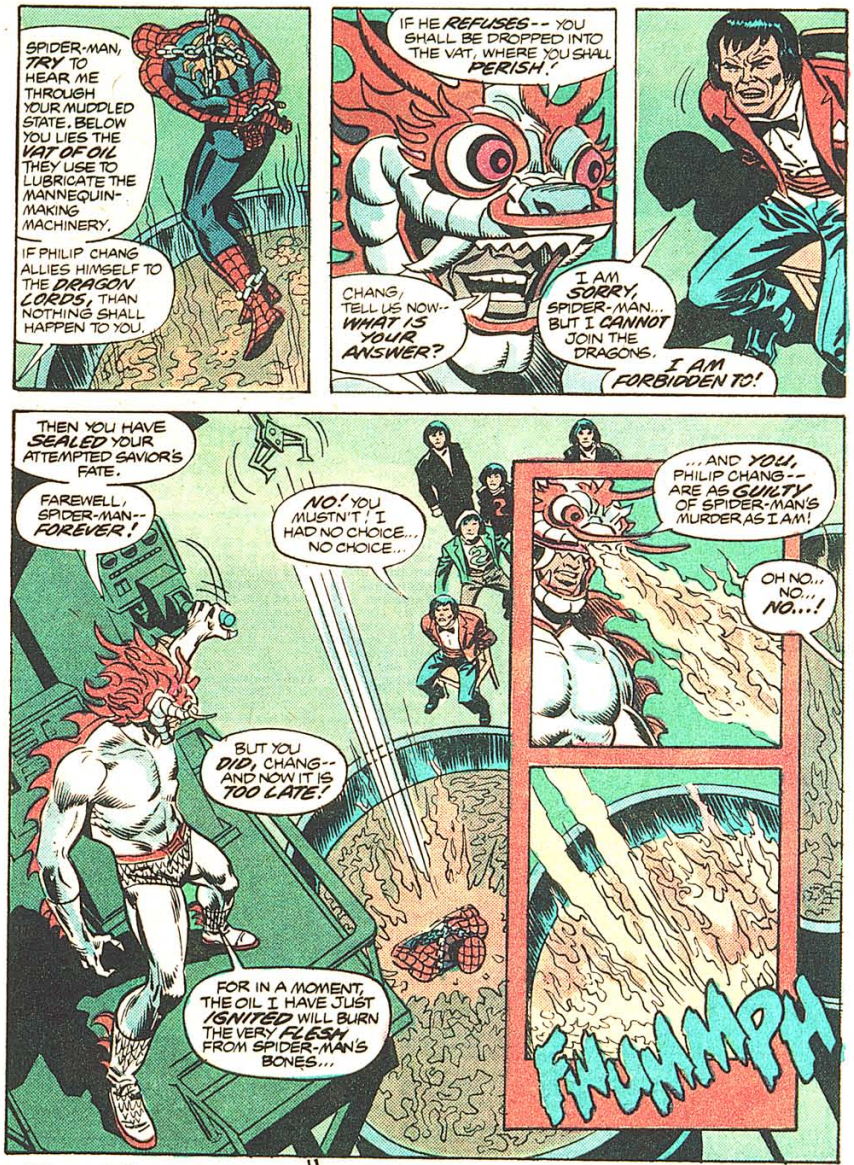

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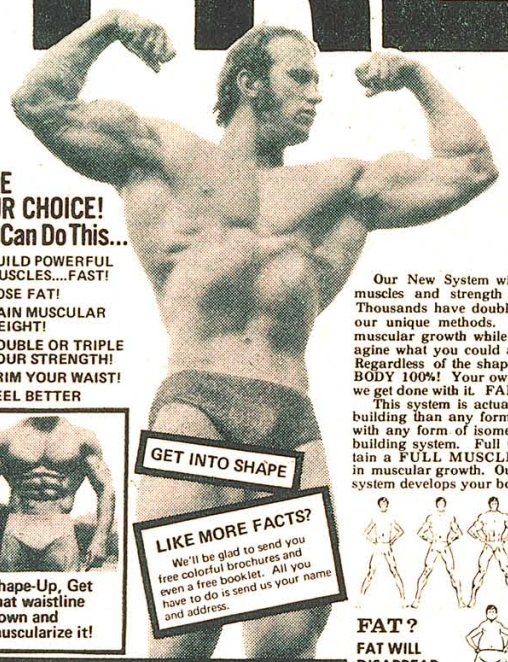

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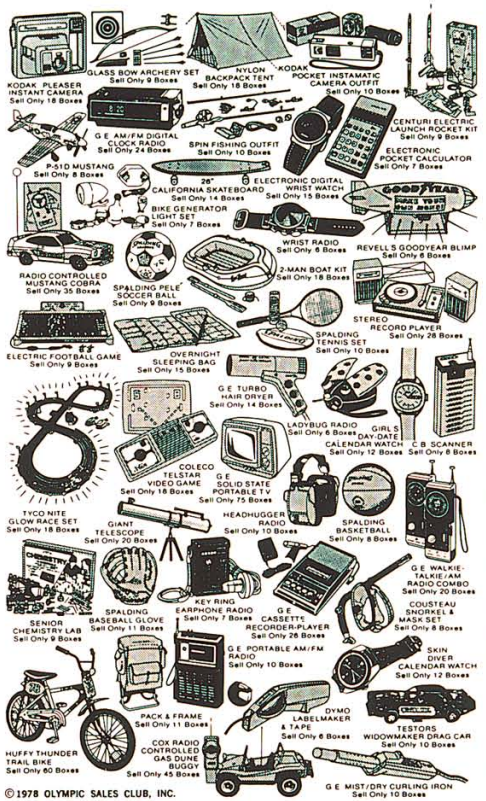

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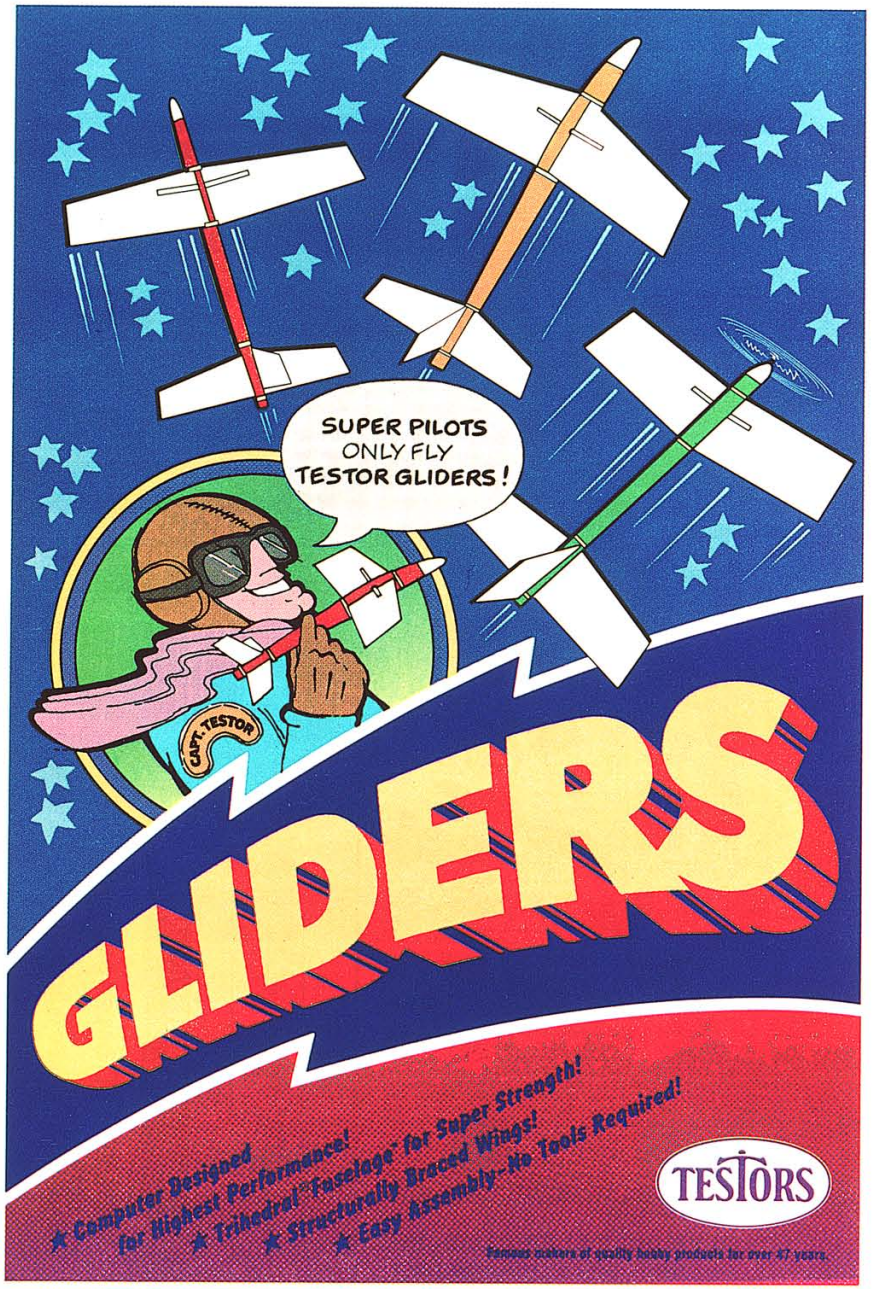

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